

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An instrument for implanting a prosthetic into a selected portion of a body, comprising:
 - a prosthetic engaging portion operable to selectively engage the prosthetic and extending along a first plane;
 - a graspable portion extending from said prosthetic engaging portion; and
 - a torque transfer system to transfer torque from a second plane to said first plane;
 - wherein said first plane intersects said second plane;
 - wherein said torque transfer system includes at least a first portion lying in said second plane and extending from said prosthetic engaging portion;
 - wherein said prosthetic engaging portion is operable to at least one of engage and disengage the prosthetic via said torque transfer system.

2. The instruments of claim 1, further comprising:

an extending portion extending from said prosthetic engaging portion and operable with said torque transfer system;

wherein said extending portion extends at an angle relative to said prosthetic engaging portion and substantially defines said second plane.

3. The instrument of claim 2, wherein said torque transfer system includes a universal ball joint;

wherein said universal ball joint is able to extend through said angle and transfer said torque produced generally along said second plane to said prosthetic engaging portion.

4. The instrument of claim 1, wherein said torque transfer system includes a flexible member able to extend through said angle to transfer said torque from said second plane to said prosthetic engaging portion.

5. The instrument of claim 1, wherein said prosthetic engaging portion includes a rotatable threaded member;

wherein said torque transfer system is able to transfer a torque to said rotatable threaded member to rotate said rotatable threaded member to at least one of engage and disengage the prosthetic.

6. The instrument of claim 1, further comprising:
a strikeable portion;
wherein said strikeable portion extends from said graspable portion
to be struck by a selected instrument.
7. The instrument of claim 1, further comprising:
an acetabular cup operable to be disengaged from said prosthetic
engaging portion after implantation into the selected portion of the body.
8. The instrument of claim 1, further comprising:
an intermediate portion generally parallel to said first plane and
spaced therefrom; and
an extending member extending from at least one of said prosthetic
engaging portion and said graspable portion to substantially interconnect said
intermediate portion and the at least one of said prosthetic engaging portion and
said the graspable portion.
9. The instrument of claim 1, wherein said prosthetic engaging portion
is disposed distally from said graspable portion.

10. The instrument of claim 9, wherein said prosthetic engaging portion is positionable through an incision formed in a dermas while said graspable portion extends to an exterior of the dermas, such that the prosthetic engaging portion is manipulatable with said graspable portion while said prosthetic engaging portion is internally disposed relative to the dermas.

11. The instrument of claim 9, wherein said torque transfer system is disposed adjacent to said prosthetic engaging portion near a distal end of the instrument;

wherein said torque transfer system is disposed a distance from said graspable portion.

12. The instrument of claim 11, further comprising:

a torqueing instrument positionable relative to said torque transfer system to provide torque to said torque transfer system;

wherein said torqueing instrument is positioned near a distal end of the instrument.

13. An apparatus for providing an implant to a selected area of a body, comprising:
- a graspable portion able to transfer a force to an implant engaging portion along a first line;
 - an intermediate portion interconnecting said graspable portion and said implant engaging portion, wherein at least a portion of said intermediate portion is spaced a distance from said first line;
 - an angled portion of said intermediate portion extends along a second line that intersects said first line;
 - a torque transfer system operable with said angled portion to transfer torque to said implant engaging portion;
 - wherein said torque transfer system is operable to torque said implant engaging portion to at least one of engage and disengage said implant engaging system from the implant.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

a strikeable portion;

wherein said strikeable portion may be struck to apply a force through said implant engaging portion substantially along said first line to implant the implant.

15. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said intermediate portion includes a parallel member;

wherein said parallel member is substantially parallel with said first line and spaced a distance from said first line to provide a clear view of said implant engaging portion during use of the apparatus.

16. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said angled portion extends to allow a tool to engage said torque transfer system while providing a substantially clear view of said implant engaging portion.

17. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said torque transfer system is operable to transfer torque around an angle defined by said angled portion relative to said implant engaging portion while providing a substantially clear view of said implant engaging portion.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said torque transfer system is selected from the group including a flexible member, a universal ball joint, an elbow joint, a transverse head tool, and a geared interconnection, a mitre gear, and combinations thereof.

19. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said implant engaging portion includes a threaded member that is operable to be torqued with said torque transfer system;

wherein said threaded member is able to engage a selected portion of the implant during an implanting procedure.

20. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said graspable portion is positioned proximally from said implant engaging portion;

wherein said implanting using portion may be positioned through a dermas of the body while said graspable portion is positioned exterior to said dermas.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said torque transfer system is positioned substantially adjacent to said implant engaging portion.

22. The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:
- a torque supplying instrument;
 - wherein said torque supplying instrument can supply a torque to said torque transfer system;
 - wherein said torque supplying instrument may be positioned distally from said graspable portion.

23. A method of implanting a prosthetic into a selected portion of a body, comprising:

forming an incision through a selected soft tissue of the body;

engaging the prosthetic with an instrument;

positioning the prosthetic relative to the selected portion of the body with said instrument;

viewing the prosthetic along a first line generally aligned with at least a portion of said instrument; and

disengaging the prosthetic from said instrument from a plane formed generally at an angle to said first line;

wherein the prosthetic is substantially viewable during said disengaging.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein forming an incision includes forming an incision of less than about 10 cm.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein engaging the prosthetic with said instrument includes:

rotating a torque transfer system defined by said instrument; and
rotating an engaging member with the torque transfer system to selectively engage the prosthetic;

wherein the engaged prosthetic is held with said instrument during the positioning of the prosthetic.

26. The method of claim 23, further comprising:

implanting the prosthetic into the selected portion of the body with the instruments while the prosthetic is engaged with said instrument.

27. The method of claim 23, where disengaging the prosthetic includes:

engaging said instrument with a torqueing tool to provide a torque to the instrument from a plane that intersects said first line such that said torqueing instrument is generally not aligned with the prosthetic engaged by said instrument.